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Inventor: HEYN, William M.
Serial No.: 10/586,723
Filing Date: 7-17-2006
Group Art Unit: 3725

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for applying an end panel to a closure ring for a container, wherein said closure ring includes an inwardly directed annular flange portion having a central opening for filling and emptying an associated container, said flange portion being initially disposed in a plane in a planar configuration, said method including ~~the~~ a step of ~~peelably~~ securing a peripheral portion of ~~an~~ a peelable end panel for a container to said planar disposed flange portion, said method ~~being~~ characterized by the further comprising a step of displacing said flange portion, with said end panel ~~peelably~~ secured thereto, from said plane to an angle thereto for forming an acute angle with said plane prior to securing said ring member and end panel to a container, whereby said end panel is maintained in shear with said annular flange portion and is peelable therefrom.

2. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 including the step of forming said angle within a range between 5 and 45 degrees.

3. (Original) A method as defined in claim 2 including the step of forming said angle to be approximately 25 degrees.

4. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the step of securing said end panel to said flange portion includes the step of heat sealing said flange portion to said peripheral portion of said end panel.

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5. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 4 including ~~the~~ a step of applying a layer of adhesive material to said peripheral portion of said end panel for sealing said peripheral portion to said flange portion.

6. (Original) A method as defined in claim 5 wherein said end panel is formed of foil.

7. (Original) A method as defined in claim 5 wherein said end panel is formed of thermoplastic material.